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Westly Lauds Stem Cell Victory

SACRAMENTO – State Controller Steve Westly today applauded an Alameda Superior court ruling that upholds all aspects of Proposition 71, the measure that created the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine (CIRM). The ruling by Superior Judge Bonnie Sabraw also confirms that the stem cell bonds allowed by Proposition 71 are valid.

“I hope this ruling brings an end to the attacks against research that will save lives,” Controller Westly said. “This lawsuit and other efforts against Proposition 71 have delayed critical research and ignored the will of the voters.”

Controller Westly was a principal supporter of Proposition 71. Earlier this month, Controller Westly issued California’s first stem cell grants. The \$12.1 million will support 169 research fellows at 16 universities, hospitals and research institutes.

Westly is the Chair of the CIRM’s Financial Accountability Oversight Committee. As Controller, he also appoints five members to the Institute’s Independent Citizens Oversight Committee.

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